WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub a1

1. An ink jet printer ejecting a plurality of kinds of ink droplets of different sizes depending upon data to be printed, thereby forming an image on a prescribed recording medium using dots of sizes corresponding to the sizes of the ink droplets, comprising:

a smoother for performing a smoothing process using a dot smaller than a dot forming said image; and

a controller for controlling said smoother to print said smaller size dot close to said image forming dots at a pitch smaller than the pitch of the dot forming the image.

Sub C1 (cont'd)

2. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 1, wherein said controller controls the position of printing the smaller dot by controlling the timing of printing the smaller dot.

3. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 2, wherein in said timing control, the timing of applying signal voltage to print said smaller dot is controlled.

4. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 1 further comprising a storage device for storing information on the

printing position of said smaller dot.

5. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 1, wherein said controller controls the printing position of the smaller dot by changing the speed of ejection of an ink droplet forming said smaller dot.

6. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 5, wherein said speed of ejection of said ink droplet is changed by changing a change degree in signal voltage to print said dot.

7. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 1, wherein said ink jet printer comprising an ink jet head ejecting said ink droplet, said ink jet head being moved at a prescribed speed in a prescribed direction, and said controller controls the printing position of said smaller dot based on the ejection speed of the ink droplet and said scanning speed.

8. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 1 further comprising determination means for determining a direction of the printing position of said smaller dot, said controller controlling the printing position of said smaller dot according to the determination.

9. An ink jet printer, comprising:

an ink jet head ejecting a plurality of kinds of ink droplets of different sizes based on data to be printed, thereby printing, on a prescribed recording medium, dots of sizes corresponding to the sizes of the ink droplets; and

a controller for changing the dot pitch thereby to change the printing position of the dot based on the size of the dot in printing said plurality of kinds of dots

10. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 9, wherein

said controller controls said printing position by controlling the timing of printing said dot.

11. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 10, wherein

in said timing control, the timing of applying signal voltage to print said dot is controlled.

12. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 9 further comprising a storage device for storing information on the printing position of said dot.

13. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 9, wherein

said controller controls the printing position of said dot by changing the ejection speed of the ink droplet.

14. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 13, wherein

the speed of ejection of said ink droplet is changed by changing a change degree in signal voltage to print said dot.

15. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 9, wherein

said ink jet head is moved at a prescribed scanning speed in a prescribed direction, and

said controller controls the printing position of the dot based on the ejection speed of the ink droplet and said scanning speed.

16. The ink jet printer as recited in claim 9 further comprising determination means for determining a direction of the printing position of said smaller dot, said controller controlling the printing position of said smaller dot according to the determination.

Sub C3

17. A method of controlling printing in an ink jet printer which ejects a plurality of kinds of ink droplets of different sizes based on data to be printed, thereby printing, on a prescribed recording medium, dots of sizes corresponding to the sizes of the ink droplets, comprising the steps of:

determining whether or not control of the printing position of a dot is necessary; and

controlling the timing of printing the dot if it is determined necessary.

Sub C1 (cont'd)

18. The method as recited in claim 17, wherein in said timing control, the timing of applying signal voltage to print said dot is controlled.

19. The method as recited in claim 17, wherein said ink jet printer includes a storage device for storing information on the printing position of the dot, and in said timing control, said timing is controlled based on the information in said storage device.

Sub C1 (Cont'd)

20. The method as recited in claim 17, wherein said printing position of said dot is controlled by changing the speed of ejection of said ink droplet.

21. The method as recited in claim 20, wherein the speed of ejection of the ink droplet is changed by changing a change degree in signal voltage to print said dot.

22. The method as recited in claim 17, wherein said ink jet printer includes an ink jet head for ejecting said ink droplets, said ink jet head is moved at a prescribed scanning speed in a prescribed direction, and said controller controls the printing position of the dot based on the speed of ejection of said ink droplets and said scanning speed.

23. The method as recited in claim 17, further comprising a step of determining a direction of controlling said printing position of a dot, if it is determined that the control of said printing position is necessary.

Sub C1 (Contd)

Add A4

add B1